

## Message Text

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PAGE 01     PRETOR 01770 300953Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00  
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-02  
INR-10 L-03 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 HA-05 EB-08 TRSE-00  
OMB-01 /090 W

-----037275 300956Z /10

O 300845Z MAR 78 ZFF-4

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 837

AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LILONGWE

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

UNCLAS PRETORIA 1770

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PDEV, RH

SUBJECT: RHODESIA: EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETS TO FORM  
MINISTERIAL COUNCIL, GABON APPROVES SETTLEMENT

1. LOCAL PRESS ACCOUNTS STATE THAT THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
MET ON MARCH 29 TO BEGIN THE FORMATION OF THE MINISTERIAL  
COUNCIL (MC). EARLY ACCOUNTS SAID THE MC MIGHT BE  
ANNOUNCED ON MARCH 29 BUT A SUBSEQUENT REPORT SAYS THE  
TALKS WERE MARKED BY "AN ACRIMONIOUS EXCHANGE" BETWEEN  
MUZOREWA AND SITHOLE OVER WHO SHOULD APPLINT THE BLACK  
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MININ TER FOR THE DEFENSE AND INTERNAL AFFAIRS PORTFOLIOS.  
REPORTEDLY SITHOLE IS STILL INSISTING THAT HIS CONTACTS  
WITH THE GUERRILLAS GIVE HIM THE RIGHT TO HOLD BOTH  
PORTFOLIOS (PRETORIA 1651). THE TALKS ARE CONTINUING  
TODAY, MARCH 30.

2. A MARCH 29 PRESS ACCOUNT REPORTS THAT GABON HAS

WELCOMED "WITH OPTIMISM" THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE  
INTERIM GOVERNMENT. QUOTING A FRENCH NEWS AGENCY  
REPORT, IT SAYS THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF GABON  
STATED THAT "WE HOPE THE PATRIOTIC FRONT WILL BECOME  
PART OF THIS COUNCIL SO AS TO STRENGTHEN THAT BLACK  
MAJORITY ... THIS IS ALREADY ONE STEP TOWARDS A FINAL  
VICTORY. IN THE FACE OF THIS PROGRESSIVE EVOLUTION  
WE MUST NOW RE-EXAMINE OUR DECISIONS IN THE LIGHT OF  
THE OFFICIAL RESULT OF THE OAU SUMMIT OF JULY."  
BOWDLER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, MEETINGS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 30 mar 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978PRETOR01770  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Subject:** RHODESIA: EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETS TO FORM MINISTERIAL COUNCIL, GABON APPROVES SETTLEMENT  
**TAGS:** PINT, PDEV, SOPN, RH  
**To:** STATE LAGOS  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014